

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 07326 211741Z

43

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 CU-02 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGR-05

AID-05 IO-10 /098 W

----- 060347

R 211656Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 496

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION USUN

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 7326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MO, SS, SP

SUBJ: DEVELOPMENTS IN SPANISH SAHARA

REF: MADRID 6975

1. SPANISH NEWSPAPERS REPORT NOV 11 THAT SAHARAN GENERAL ASSEMBLY (YEMAA) HELD ITS FIRST SESSION IN FOUR MONTHS BEGINNING NOV 19 WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO LAST THROUGH NOV 23. GOVERNOR GENERAL, GOMEZ DE SALAZAR, PRESIDED AT OPENING SESSION AS WELL AS SEC GEN RODRIGUEZ DE VIGURI (WHO ALSO SPANISH ARMY COLONEL). LATTER QUOTED AS TELLING ASSEMBLY MEMBERS THAT "TASK IS NOT EASY BECAUSE CREATION OF A COUNTRY REQUIRES IMMENSE SACRIFICES." RODRIGUEZ REVIEWED ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE LAST ASSEMBLY MEETING FOUR MONTHS AGO IN AREAS OF EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, TRADE, HOUSING, PUBLIC WORKS, AND TOURISM. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, YEMAA WILL DEBATE RESOLUTIONS ON SAHARAN NATIONALITY, BASIC LAW OF

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 07326 211741Z

JUSTICE, CIVIL LAW, AND CREATION OF SAHARAN HONORARY ORDER.

2. SPANISH NEWSPAPERS ALSO REPORT THAT A GROUP OF MAURITANIAN NOTABLES INCLUDING "CHEG AND CAIDES" (PRESUMABLY TRIBES) SPENT FIVE DAYS IN SPANISH SAHARA, NOV 14-19, AND WERE RECEIVED BY GOVERNOR GENERAL TO WHOM THEY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AND ADMIRATION FOR WORK CARRIED OUT BY SPAIN IN SAHARA. IN PAST FEW DAYS SPANISH MEDIA HAVE ALSO REPORTED COMMENTS BY MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT IN PARIS NEWSPAPER THAT, ALTHOUGH MAURITANIA SIDED WITH MOROCCO IN PROPOSAL TO HAVE ISSUE DISCUSSED BY ICJ, MAURITANIA ALSO BELIEVED THAT THIS RECOURSE WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY AFFECT SELF-DETERMINATION OF AREA AS PRESCRIBED BY UN RESOLUTION.

3. SPANISH CORRESPONDENTS ATTENDING UNGA SESSION IN NEW YORK REPORT NOV 19 THAT FOURTH COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT ON DE-COLONIZATION HAS EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION ON SAHARA AND GIBRALTAR. SECTION ON SAHARA, FOR EXAMPLE, REPORTEDLY DISCUSSES IN FULL ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS WELL AS DETAILS OF PHOSPHATE EXTRACTION AND OTHER SPANISH PLANS FOR MINERALOGICAL EXPLORATION IN SAHARA. WHILE NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT FORTHCOMING FROM GOS ON POSSIBLE ACCEPTANCE OF ICJ ROLE, SPANISH PRESS NOW REPORTING STRONG PROBABILITY THAT SPAIN WILL AGREE TO UN'S GOING TO THE HAGUE FOR ADVISORY OPINION.

4. YEMAA SESSION OPENED DAY AFTER RETURN TO MADRID FROM CANARIES OF ALUSNA, AIRA AND A/ARMA WHO WERE TOLD WHILE VISITING SPANISH MILITARY UNITS AND FACILITIES IN CANARIES THAT TENSION SUBSIDING IN SAHARA. INSPECTION OF AIRFIELD AND PORT FACILITIES SHOWED SOME RESUPPLY ACTIVITIES ONGOING, BUT NOT ENOUGH TO MAINTAIN EXTENSIVE SPANISH FORCES IN SAHARA. SERVICE ATTACHES REPORT SPANISH MILITARY IN CANARIES NOT OPPOSED TO EVENTUAL SPANISH WITHDRAWAL FROM SAHARA BUT CONCERNED THAT MOROCCO MAY, WITH ADDITION OF U.S. ARMS, BECOME CONVINCED IT COULD WIN MILITARY VICTORY AND INITIATE SURPRISE ATTACK. FRANCO RECEIVED COLONEL TORRES EGUIBAR, CHIEF OF AIR UNITS IN THE SAHARA, NOV 19.

5. COMMENT: GOS EVIDENTLY CONTINUING TO FOLLOW STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS OF ELABORATING INSTITUTIONS FOR ULTIMATE INTERNAL AUTONOMY JUDGING BY AGENDA OF YEMAA. TIMING OF SAHARAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 07326 211741Z

GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY BE VIEWED AS PROVOCATIVE BY MOROCCANS WHO EARLIER OBJECTED TO ANY SPANISH EFFORT TO FULFILL ANNOUNCED STATUTE LEADING TOWARD SELF-DETERMINATION. IN CUSTOMARY LEGALISTIC WAY, GOS NOT PREJUDGING OUTCOME OF CURRENT UNGA DEBATES AND IS PROCEEDING WITH SELF-DETERMINATION PLAN AS MANDATED BY 1973 UN RESOLUTION UNTIL UN ITSELF ACTS IN SOME WAY TO RESCIND IT.
RIVERO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, SELFDETERMINATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MADRID07326
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740337-0922
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741124/aaaaaufb.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MADRID 6975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <21 MAR 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEVELOPMENTS IN SPANISH SAHARA
TAGS: PFOR, MO, SS, SP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005